

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 316
By Person

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Patricia Person Ray,
Ed.D. upon being selected as Tennessee
Assistant Principal of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to honor those exemplary educators who have dedicated their lives and their careers to the growth and development of this state's most precious resource: our children; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Patricia "Patti" Person Ray, Vice-Principal of Germantown High School, is most assuredly one such exceptional teacher and administrator; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ray has recently been named the Tennessee Assistant Principal of the Year by the Tennessee Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP) as part of the McDonald's-National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) Assistant Principal Recognition Program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ray was awarded this august recognition based on her willingness to take risks to help students, her ability to anticipate and solve problems and her success in improving the school's learning environment; and

WHEREAS, as Tennessee's Assistant Principal of the Year, Dr. Ray will attend the "Leadership Forum for the 21st Century" this spring at McDonald's Hamburger University in Oak Brook, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, assistant principals from across the nation will join Dr. Ray at Hamburger University for this exciting forum, where they will participate in workshops on quality management, diversity, safe schools and business-school partnerships; and

WHEREAS, long an active and valuable participant in NASSP and TASSP affairs, Dr. Ray will serve a one-year term on the TASSP Board beginning this year; and

WHEREAS, at the 1996 NASSP Convention, to be held in San Francisco on February 23-27, Dr. Ray and her fellow assistant principals will be specially honored and recognized at the McDonald's reception and at the Assistant Principal Luncheon; and

WHEREAS, a photo display of all state assistant principals and principals of the year will be appropriately placed in the Hall of Honor and used later at McDonald's Oak Brook forum; and

WHEREAS, the very epitome of the consummate professional educator, Dr. Ray earned her bachelor of science in education in May 1975 and her master of education in educational administration and supervision in May 1987 from Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, in December 1987, this distinguished lady received her doctor of education in educational administration and supervision from Memphis State; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ray began her illustrious career in education as a social studies teacher at Riverdale Elementary for ten years, before relocating to Germantown High School where she taught history, geography and contemporary issues for three years; and

WHEREAS, she began her meritorious tenure as an educational administrator in August 1988 when she assumed the duties of Assistant Principal at Germantown High School; and

WHEREAS, she was responsible for attendance and discipline in this post, and she executed her duties adroitly for four years before ascending to her present position of Vice-Principal at Germantown High School; and

WHEREAS, in her award-winning position of vice-principal, Dr. Ray has astutely served as instructional leader, developing and implementing curriculum programs; and

WHEREAS, she conducts all written evaluations of the professional instructional staff; coordinates in-service programs; creates the master schedule; coordinates the development of new course offerings; and serves as the liaison between the PTA and the school, as well as the liaison between the Department of Instruction and the principal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ray has been instrumental in the growth and achievement of the Student Assistance Program and has expanded that program to include P.A.S.S., to help students who struggle with academics; and

WHEREAS, an educator who realizes that citizenship entails many responsibilities beyond the classroom, Dr. Ray has played an instrumental role in numerous organizations and projects dedicated to improving the quality of life in her community, as well as being active in many professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her meritorious work at Germantown High School, Dr. Ray is a published author on educational theory and a respected and informative presenter on educational topics for Shelby County Schools, the Tennessee Academy for Schools Leaders and the National Conference on Students At-Risk; and

WHEREAS, this accomplished educator has also served as an adjunct professor in the Department of Leadership at the University of Memphis and as adjunct professor at the University of Alabama, conducting the technology workshop, "The Electronic Classroom"; and

WHEREAS, she has also consulted with schools in California, Texas, Ohio, Tennessee and Florida on ways to improve the attendance rates of their students, and she is highly regarded as an expert in this field by the NASSP; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her most recent honor, Dr. Ray received the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the University of Memphis in 1991; and

WHEREAS, described by her colleagues as "professional, fair, organized and trustworthy", "always using innovative techniques", "an administrator for the twenty-first century [with] aspirations for public education [which] are high, positive and forward looking", "an

excellent teacher who continues to expand her own educational horizons” and “the perfect blend of poise, fairness and integrity”, Dr. Ray is all of these things and much more; and

WHEREAS, most of all, Dr. Ray is a shining example of the many traits an educator should personally hope to achieve, and she is a positive guiding force for the improvement of education for the children of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, whether she is serving as a mentor for students, teachers or fellow administrators, Dr. Ray represents all that is good and right in public education, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Dr. Patricia Person Ray upon her selection as Tennessee Assistant Principal of the Year by the NASSP, salute her proficient and productive career in education in which growth and progress have served as benchmarks, and wish her much continued success as she participates in the McDonald’s Leadership Forum.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.